

From: Gene Merritt
To: Microsoft ATR
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Subject: Microsoft settlement

Spending any amount of time on an computer one cane encounter MANY areas of UNDUE influence by Microsoft.

This now even extends to websites such as STARBUCKS. I had an account with them until they formed a partnership with Microsoft and redesigned their (Starbucks') website based on Microsoft Passport! My old account is no longer valid. And, even more, one cannot even approach or get onto or even contact the Starbucks site unless one accepts Microsoft Passport cookies! Not even being allowed on the site without Microsoft's surveillance! I consider this WAY TOO MUCH POWER AND INFLUENCE! And this is only one example! I've sent several emails to Starbucks...finally got to them through Planetfeedback...and still no getting near the site.

Microsoft is extending it's web of power and influence AND CONTROL into so many areas of public and private communication. MSNBC. Newsweek. Just to name a few. This may, now, look rather harmless, but...hey what about the future. One company should not have so much control over so many facets of our daily lives.

And the government, in this matter, doesn't look to clean in this case, either. I remember seeing news footage of Gates in Washington set to meet with government officials WHILE MICROSOFT'S CASE WAS BEING HANDLED BY THE GOVERNMENT! I the, immediately, thought about CONFLICT OF INTEREST! Talk about impropriety!!!

Microsoft seems to have no qualms whatsoever about tossing around their incredible weight and thumbing their nose in the air at us regular Americans...and for that matter, the laws of this great country! There's no remorse. No head bowed seeking the government's forgiveness. Does this tell you anything!

It's in your court now! Don't shame the rest of us HONEST Americans by holding Microsoft and it's bullying practices up to a different standard of law than the rest of us!

Thanx for listening!

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